

REMARKS

This paper is submitted in response to the pending Office Action mailed on January 6, 2010. Because this Response is submitted with a Petition for a three month Extension of Time, a check for \$1,110.00 set forth under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)(1) and a certificate of mailing in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.8 on or before the shortened period for reply set to expire on **July 6, 2010**, this Response is timely filed.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Prior to this Response, claims 1, 3, 4, 7 to 9, 11 to 24, 26 to 28, and 37 to 38 were pending and at issue. By this Response, claims 4, 9, 12 to 15, 17 to 19 and 22 have been amended, claims 1, 3, 7, 8, 11, 21, 23 to 24, 26 to 28, and 37 to 38 have been canceled without disclaimer, and no new claims have been added.

The total fees believed due in connection with this Response are \$1,110.00, however, please charge **Deposit Account No. 23-1925 (11333-00035)** for any fees deemed owed.

II. CLAIM REJECTIONS

The Office Action rejects: claims 1, 4, 7, 13, 15, 17, 18, 24, and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,144,869 to Berner ("*Berner*"); claims 3, 8, 9, 11, 26, and 27 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as obvious over Berner in view of U.S. Publication No. 2004/0230227 to Avrahami ("*Avrahami*"); claims 12 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as obvious over *Berner* in view of U.S. Publication No. 2003/0208114 to Ackerman ("*Ackerman*"); claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as obvious over *Berner* in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,279,543 to Glikfeld ("*Glikfeld*"); claims 19, 20 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,736,777 to Kim ("*Kim*") in view of U.S. Publication No. 2003/0199745 to Burson ("*Burson*") and *Berner*; and claim 27 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as anticipated by *Avrahami*.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1, 3, 4, 7 to 9, 11 to 24, 26 to 28, and 37 to 38 as being anticipated and/or rendered obvious by one or more

of the cited references either alone or in combination. In particular, the pending claims 4, 9, 12 to 20 and 22 recite, and/or have been amended to recite, at least the limitations and subject matter indicated by the pending Office Action to be patentable and allowable. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the pending rejections have been rendered moot and that the pending claims 4, 9, 12 to 20 and 22 are patentable and in condition for allowance.

III. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the pending rejections and submits that the above-identified patent application is now in condition for allowance and earnestly solicits reconsideration of same. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,
BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE

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